

**State of Vermont**  
**Department of Vermont Health Access**  
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*Agency of Human Services*  
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## MEMORANDUM

**TO:** Jeb Spaulding, Secretary of Administration  
**THROUGH:** Doug Racine, Secretary of Agency of Human Services  
**FROM:** Victoria Loner, Deputy Commissioner of DVHA  
**RE:** Sole Source request for Oregon Health and Science University contract  
**DATES:** July 1, 2012 through May 31, 2013  
**AMOUNT:** \$123,439

DVHA is requesting permission to enter a sole-source agreement with OHSU to conduct cost-savings analysis for our Medicaid programs. Through OHSU, DVHA seeks to identify health services that are most beneficial, and those which can be reduced for cost savings at a minimal impact to the beneficiaries of state health programs. The OHSU Center for Evidence-based Policy is uniquely qualified to assist the DVHA in the evaluation and further development of its Medicaid benefit design for the following reasons:

- No other contractor provides equivalent experience of working with a broad cross section of states on linking the consideration of clinical evidence to Medicaid policy in the following ways:
  - Convening, staffing, and providing clinical research for a multi-state collaboration evaluating the comparative effectiveness of drugs within classes (Drug Effectiveness Review Project).
  - Convening, staffing, and providing clinical research and policy analysis for a multi-state collaboration evaluating the effectiveness and comparative effectiveness of a broad range of health care interventions including procedures, diagnostics, medical devices, durable medical equipment and program interventions such as disease management and prior authorization of imaging services (Medicaid Evidence-based Decisions Project)
  - Developing a dossier process for evaluation of requests for Medicaid coverage of new interventions for New York Medicaid.
  - Developing a process for determining the clinical value of potential Essential Health Benefits under the Washington State's Health Insurance Exchange.
- The Center combines the linkage of clinical research and policy analysis with experience in designing, conducting and evaluating inclusive and transparent stakeholder engagement processes for states and the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality.
- The Center provides the above services as a governmental organization allowing states to contract with it through intergovernmental agreement as opposed to commercial contracts.

